	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/220,821	AYLWARD, J. RICHARD
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ping Lee	2644
The MAILING DATE of this communication appearable All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this ap or other appropriate communicatio IGHTS. This application is subject	oplication. If not included n will be mailed in due course. <b>THIS</b>
1. This communication is responsive to <u>amendment filed on 1</u>	<u>1/5/06</u> .	
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-5, 7, 15, 17, 19, 24-36 and 40	0-42. They have been renumbered	as claims 1-23 respectively.
3. $\boxtimes$ The drawings filed on $\underline{12/24/98}$ are accepted by the Exami	ner.	
<ul> <li>4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority una) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:</li> <li>1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> </ul>	been received. been received in Application No.	
* Certified copies not received:		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" on noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file a reply IENT of this application.	complying with the requirements
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submit INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	itted. Note the attached EXAMINER reason(s) why the oath or declar	R'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF ation is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	st be submitted.	
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers		-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date		
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment or in the	Office action of
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1. each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the	.84(c)) should be written on the draw he header according to 37 CFR 1.121	ings in the front (not the back) of (d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT I	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGIC	must be submitted. Note the CAL MATERIAL.
Attachment(s)  1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date  4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit	6. ☐ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Da 8), 7. ☑ Examiner's Amend	ite
of Biological Material	9. 🔲 Other	

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## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

- 1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art in the record fails to disclose, teach or suggest a method or an apparatus to process a single channel audio signal to provide a plurality of audio-channel signals as specified in claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 15, 17,19, 24 and 40 respectively. The claimed "a single channel audio signal" is being interpreted as a monophonic signal. The claimed "a plurality of audio channels" is being interpreted as audio channels with different signal contents that define an audio imaging, such as stereophonic imaging and surround sound imaging. Claim 24 specifies an audio processing system for receiving at its input terminal a monophonic signal and processing the monophonic signal to generate a center channel signal and a plurality of other output audio channel signals. The claimed "factor is variable with respect to time" as specified in claim 1 is being interpreted as a factor to create different changes in signal content in the plurality of audio channels; whereas a general volume control by the user will make same change in all the audio channels. The claimed "time-delaying" in claim 5 is being interpreted as a delay to create pseudo sound imaging.
- 2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ping Lee whose telephone number is 703-305-4865.
 The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on 703-305-4040. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rimary Examiner
Art Unit 2644

pwl